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Washington LABOR MARKET

April 1988

Washington State
Employment Security

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In cooperation with the
Employment and Training
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U.S. Department of Labor

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Highlights

Employment Springs Ahead

Employment surged ahead in March encouraged by milder weather conditions. The job total in Washington State rose 27,000 from February with growth in both farm and nonfarm jobs. In Western Washington, the daffodil bud harvest was underway and vegetable crops were being planted. Spring tillage began throughout the state, while orchard cleanup continued east of the Cascades and asparagus growers were grooming fields and preparing for the harvest to begin. More important, rain brought much needed moisture to agricultural areas in Eastern Washington.

Unemployment Down

Responding to the expansion in employment opportunities, total unemployment in the state fell 10,900 from February to total 166,400 in March and 7.3 percent of the labor force. The decline was greater than seasonally expected, and the seasonally adjusted rate fell from 7.0 to

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	Mar. 1988* (Prel.)	Feb. 1988 (Rev.)	Mar. 1987
Civilian Labor Force	2,284,200	2,268,100	2,201,400
Total Employment	2,117,800	2,090,800	2,015,100
Total Unemployment	166,400	177,300	186,300
State Unemployment Rate	7.3	7.8	8.5
National Civilian Unemployment Rate	5.9	6.2	6.9

*These data represent alternative estimates of labor force conditions developed by the State Employment Security Department. They are more comparable with data released in previous years than are the official Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates developed for federal program purposes. (Data in this table are not seasonally adjusted.)

6.8 percent over the month. Over the year, total unemployment in the state was down 19,900 as job growth substantially exceeded the number of new entrants to the labor force. Employment jumped 102,700 over the year, or 5.1 percent, which was more than twice the growth rate nationally.

MARCH INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

Tourist Business Picks Up

Nonagricultural wage and salary payrolls rose 16,500 in March with seasonal job growth on schedule and no sign of any slackening in the economy. Most of the job growth was in the nonmanufacturing industries, especially services, trade and construction. The services industries led the expansion with a gain of 5,000. Health services continued to grow and contributed 1,200 of the new jobs, while other gains were largely seasonal. The beginning of the spring tourist season resulted in expansions at hotels and motels; agricultural services was higher because of more landscape work and spring pruning; and firms which prepare income tax returns for others added staff with the filing deadline approaching. Employment at ski resorts declined seasonally, but higher payrolls in the remainder of the amusement industry more than offset the loss because of the opening of race tracks and expansions at golf courses. Carnivals also began their spring-summer tour of

shopping centers. Employment at private colleges, however, declined slightly because of spring vacations.

Restaurants Note Seasonal Gains

Retail trade added 2,000 jobs in March, while wholesale employment rose 900. About three-fourths of the increase on the retail level occurred at restaurants. Spring weather, as usual, prompted local residents to take short trips and eat out more. In other segments of retail trade, employment changes were mixed but followed normal seasonal patterns. Job growth was noted at building material outlets, gasoline service stations, recreational vehicle dealers, and food stores. Department and apparel stores, however, cut back while waiting to begin summer sales promotions. In wholesale trade most of the new jobs were at firms handling durable goods and farm and garden supplies.

Construction Going Up

Construction moved out of its winter doldrums in March with a strong gain of 3,500 jobs. The major uncertainty for the industry is homebuilding. Mortgage rates have declined in recent months but are still up over the year. Nationally, housing starts rose 1.9 percent in March following a gain of 9.6 percent in February, but were still down 10.4 percent over the year in March. Most analysts expect slightly fewer starts this year than last. Many analysts are encouraged, however, by the decline in mortgage rates from last fall and increasing consumer confidence.

In other nonmanufacturing industries, government civilian employment rose 1,500 with 900 of the increase in education. All of the gains in education occurred at primary and secondary schools. Employment at state colleges was down slightly because of spring vacations. Other gains in government resulted largely from a spring pickup in outdoor work such as brush cutting along roadways and repairing potholes which developed over the winter.

Finance, insurance, and real estate moved up 700 in March with most of the growth in real estate where sales began to increase from their winter lows. Transportation-communications-utilities also began to expand in response to growing business activity. Higher employment was reported by trucking firms, airlines and in longshoring.

Manufacturing Adds 2,300 Jobs

Manufacturing also contributed to the job growth in March with a gain of 2,300. Surprisingly, shipbuilding was one of the major sources of new manufacturing jobs in March with the "other transportation equipment" category up 700. Repair and remodeling contracts will result in additional gains in April and May, but shipbuilding is not expected to return to its former prominence. Seasonal gains were credited to food products (up 500) and lumber-wood products (up 300). The largest increase in food products was at fish and other seafoods plants. Lumber employment should continue to increase through September and October, barring a major labor dispute or closure of forests because of fire hazard conditions. Some sawmills, however, have reported difficulty obtaining a sufficient supply of logs at acceptable prices.

Aerospace Stable

Aerospace remained relatively stable for the second consecutive month, adding 100 jobs in both February and March. Nonetheless, even though total employment in the industry remains relatively unchanged, a considerable number of job openings occur for replacement purposes because of the industry's size.

YEAR-TO-YEAR DEVELOPMENTS

Heath Service Workers in Demand

Service industries continue to lead the job expansion in the state, adding 29,400 over the year. Health services, the largest category in the industry, grows year in and year out regardless of overall economic conditions. Over the past year, health services employment has increased 7,800, or 6.1 percent, compared with a 4.5 percent gain in other nonfarm industries. Advertisements for health care workers is increasingly common and a sign of the growth taking place in the industry.

Business Services Booms

While health care services has grown rapidly in recent years, business services has grown even more rapidly. Since 1983, business services employment has increased 75 percent versus a gain of 23.5 percent in health services payrolls. Major reasons for the boom in business services are the expansion in overall business activity since 1983 and the growing popularity of contracting out support activities. Two of the fastest growing categories in business services are computer and data processing services, which has more than doubled in employment since 1983, and personnel

supply agencies where employment has nearly tripled since 1983. Contracting for workers not needed permanently, rather than hiring them directly, has grown in popularity in recent years. The workers involved remain the employees of the supply agency, and there is no obligation on the part of the contracting firm to retain them if they are unsuitable or when they are no longer needed.

16,600 New Jobs in Trade

Wholesale and retail trade payrolls rose 16,600 year to year to post the next largest increase. Growth has been reported in most segments of the industry from apparel stores to restaurants and reflects the rise in income generated by the state's expanding economy. The increase in the proportion of the population of working age resulting from the maturing of the "baby-boom" generation is a contributing factor as is the increasing participation of women in the work force.

Construction Strong

In other nonmanufacturing industries, construction added 6,800. Heavy construction, including street and highway, was down slightly over the year, but residential construction was up despite weakness on the national level. The housing market in the Puget Sound area, however, remains relatively healthy because of exceptionally strong job growth and in-migration.

Government Jobs Growing Slowly

Government civilian payrolls rose 5,400 over the year, or 1.5 percent. The increase was well below the 5.4 percent gain in all other nonfarm employment. All of the increase was on the state and local level. Federal payrolls dipped 300 over the year because of a cutback in defense jobs. Further reductions are likely because of a cutback in the defense budget for the next fiscal year.

Growth Continues in Manufacturing

Manufacturing is enjoying a resurgence both nationally and in the state because of the decline in the dollar relative to the foreign currencies. Nationally, manufacturing employment was up 2.2 percent over the year in March, but in this state the gain was 5.9 percent. Aerospace accounted for 8,600 additional manufacturing jobs in Washington State over the 12-month period, however, employment in other manufacturing industries rose 9,500. The only loss occurred in chemicals where the job total fell 700 because of cutbacks at Hanford.

On the positive side, lumber-wood products added 1,500 jobs year to year with over half of the increase in logging. Log exports are exceptionally strong. Aluminum employment rose 1,200 from March 1987 when payrolls were depressed and two plants idle. Since that time aluminum demand and prices have strengthened, and the industry is now operating at near capacity for the first time since 1982. The price of aluminum ingots was quoted at $1.16 per pound in the week ended April 9, 1988. A year earlier the metal sold at $0.774 per pound.

Machinery firms added 2,100 workers over the year because of strong export and domestic demand. The U.S. Department of Commerce reported in April that business investment surged 21 percent in the first quarter of this year. "Other transportation equipment" added 1,100 jobs from March 1987. Shipbuilding was still down over the year despite its increase this March, but growth at firms producing pleasure craft far exceeded the drop.

AREA TRENDS

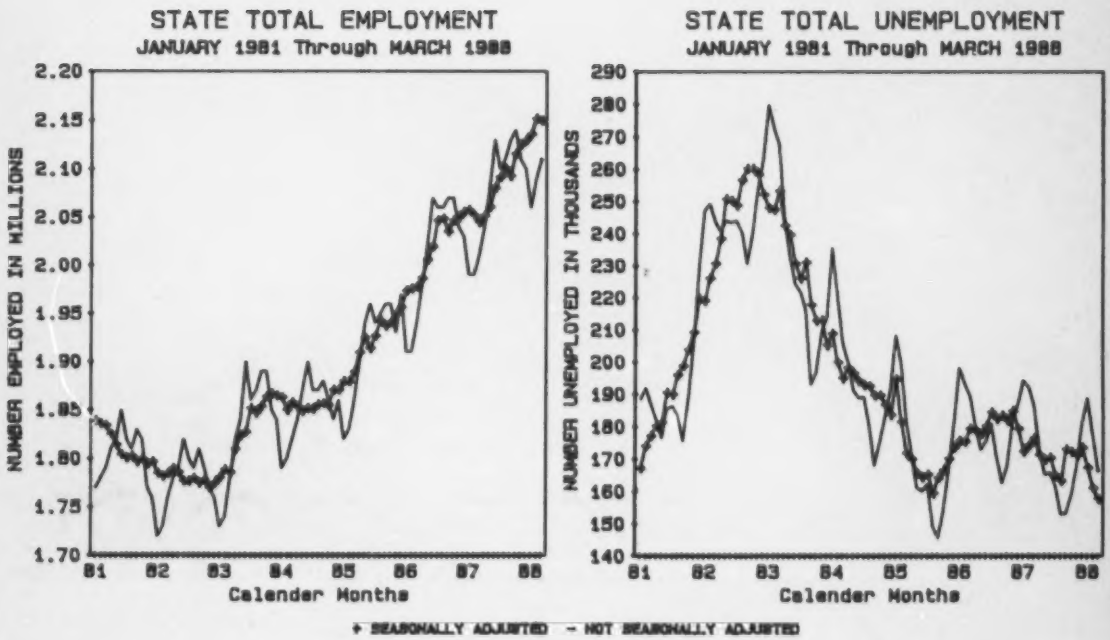
Farm Jobs Lower Unemployment In Eastern Washington

Unemployment declined in most areas of the state in March, but the largest reductions occurred in Eastern Washington because of the expansion in agriculture. The overall rate east of the Cascades, however, remained significantly higher than on the west side. The jobless rate in Eastern Washington fell from 11.1 in February to 10.1 percent in March with employment advancing nearly two percent, while the rate in the western part of the state declined from 6.9 to 6.5 percent with employment increasing 1.1 percent.

In the state's major metropolitan areas, unemployment declined more moderately than in other areas because of less dependence on seasonal industries. Seattle's rate edged down from 5.8 to 5.6 percent; Tacoma saw its rate fall from 7.5 to 7.1 percent, while the rate in Spokane fell from 7.8 percent in February to 7.2 in March. By contrast, in the Yakima area where agricultural activities were expanding, the rate fell from 15.6 to 13.4 percent. And despite layoffs at Hanford, the jobless rate in the Tri-Cities area fell from 10.4 to 9.4 percent over the month because of the expansion in agricultural employment.

Job Growth Centered
In Seattle and Tacoma

An over the year comparison presents a different picture of trends in regional economies. Employment in Western Washington rose 5.7 percent over the year versus an increase of 2.8 percent on the east side. Moreover, 70 percent of the job gain over the year occurred in the Seattle and Tacoma metropolitan areas. Despite the uneven employment growth, however, unemployment has declined just as much in Eastern Washington and in most nonmetropolitan areas of Western Washington as it has in the central Puget Sound area. Apparently people are moving to where the jobs are.



INDUSTRY NOTES

Orders Roll In For Boeing

Orders for Boeing jetliners continued to roll in during April. Orders and options for 13 Boeing jumbo jets from Korean Air Lines would be worth nearly $2 billion if the options are exercised. Firm orders were included for six 747-400s worth $936 million. Deliveries of the aircraft will extend through 1994. International Leasure Group, based in Great Britain, ordered 30 jetliners worth $1.4 billion. The order, which is subject to the completion of financing, includes 22 Boeing 757-200s and eight 737-400s with delivery starting in April 1990.

Government-owned Air France was authorized by its board to order 12 Boeing 737-500 jetliners in April. The 737-500 is still under development but is expected to be available for commercial service next year. With 108 seats, it will be the smallest Boeing jetliner. Airbus doesn't offer a plane of that size.

Water Supply Still Short

Heavy rainfall in March eased the drought in Washington State, but a water shortage still exists. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, however, expects stream flows to be 70 percent of normal this summer. Spokesmen for the Corps, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, and the Bonneville Power Administration now expect normal precipitation this summer will be sufficient to meet the needs of fish, farmers and utilities in the Pacific Northwest through this summer. The Bureau of Reclamation credited conservation measures for the improved outlook. The conservation measures included planting crops which require less water such as grains and alfalfa. Arrangements have also been made to share water among irrigation districts.

Nursing Shortage to Grow

According to the Seattle Area Hospital Association there are 1,000 to 1,200 nursing job vacancies in Washington State. Vacancies are expected to increase because of the decision of federal officials not to renew visas of thousands of foreign nurses. Foreign nurses were recruited throughout the United States to ease a growing shortage of nurses. Few foreign nurses were recruited by Seattle area hospitals, but the jobs they vacate in other states is expected to impact the supply of nurses in Seattle.

Besides active recruitment, hospitals in Seattle have implemented programs to encourage high school students to enter nursing education programs and have tried to attract people age 25 to 44 who are seeking a second career.

Key Tronic Corp. to Cut 125 Jobs

Key Tronic Corp., a Spokane manufacturer of keyboards for computers, announced in April that it would lay off 125 employees not involved in production or not directly supporting production over the next few months. The layoff is in addition to the cutback of 110 workers announced in March. The firm's president attributed the layoffs to the need to lower labor costs because of intense price competition from foreign competitors. An additional 100 production workers may be laid off temporarily when the company moves its assembly work from Spokane to a plant in Cheney. Despite the cutbacks, Key Tronic expects to ship a record number of keyboards during its current fiscal year, which will end June 30. Orders for the company's new "Quicksilver" keyboard continue to exceed production capacity, according to the firm's president.

Spokane Schools to Cut Staff

Spokane School District #81 will drop more than 80 jobs next year because of declining enrollments in its middle and high schools. According to the school district's superintendent, most of the jobs will be eliminated through attrition. About 50 jobs are teaching position, some of them vacant.

NATIONAL INDICATORS

Economic Indicators continued on a positive trend with the Gross National Product (GNP) expanding in the first quarter and the Index of Leading Economic Indicators posting a gain in both February and March. Purchasing agents also noted a strong economy in April.

GNP Up 2.3 Percent

The nation's economy expanded 2.3 percent in the first quarter as consumer spending rebounded from a decline in the fourth quarter, business investment picked up and the nation's trade deficit narrowed. The increase was down from 4.8 percent in the fourth quarter, but much of that increase resulted from a sharp gain in inventories. The buildup in inventories and drop in consumer spending in the fourth quarter prompted some economists to expect production cutbacks if not a recession. The cutback did

not occur. Moreover, prospects for the second quarter are encouraging. Employment growth and lower tax withholding this year are boosting consumer confidence. The Index of Consumer Sentiment of the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research jumped 3.3 percent in March and is now higher than its previous high set in August 1987.

Leading Indicators Advance

The Index of Leading Economic Indicators, the government's main forecasting gauge, rose 0.8 percent in March following a gain of 1.3 percent (revised) in February. The positive changes in the index in February and March reversed a declining trend, which followed the stock market sell-off in October.

The value of the index as a forecasting tool has been criticized recently because it sometimes predicts recessions which don't occur. The Federal Reserve, however, also follows economic indicators closely. Had they not eased the availability of credit last fall when the index was falling, we very likely would be in a recession.

Leading indicators contributing to the rise in the index in March were declines in initial claims for unemployment compensation and the business delivery index. Building permits, stock market prices, the money supply, and sensitive material prices all moved ahead. Leading indicators pointing down were the average workweek of manufacturing production workers, plant and equipment orders and orders for consumer goods. The declines in consumer goods and plant and equipment orders were slight. Data were not available on credit outstanding or inventories for the preliminary March estimate of the index.

Purchasing Agents Note Growth

The National Association of Purchasing Management reported that its April survey of 250 purchasing managers indicated that the growth rate of new orders continued at a healthy pace, particularly export orders. Production expanded at an even faster rate, according to the survey, but 70 percent of the purchasers also reported higher prices.

Occupational Supply-Demand Reports Available

A new edition of the Occupations in the Labor Market: Demand, Supply and Characteristics is now available from the Employment Security Department. Twenty-eight publications, covering Washington State and 24 substate areas, contain updated information on the demand for and supply of workers in particular occupations as well as

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ages and other characteristics of the jobs. The data files may also be obtained on microcomputer diskettes. For a descriptive order form and price list, write to: Employment Security Department, Labor Market and Economic Analysis - OIS, Mail Stop: KG-11, Olympia, Washington 98504 or call (206) 438-4815.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
(All Items, Urban Consumers, 1982-1984=100)**

	INDEXES			PERCENT CHANGE Year Ending	
	Mar. 1988	Feb. 1988	Mar. 1987	Mar. 1988	Feb. 1988
U.S. City Average	116.5	116.0	112.1	3.9	3.9
	July-Dec. 1987	July-Dec. 1986		July-Dec. '86 to July-Dec. '87	
Seattle*	110.3	106.7		3.4	

* The index for Seattle reflects prices in King, Pierce and Snohomish counties.

** The base period for the index has been changed from 1967=100 to 1982-1984=100. The conversion factors for the All Items, Urban Consumers Indexes on the 1967=100 base are U.S=0.3338279, Seattle=0.3280421.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE & SALARY WORKERS IN WASHINGTON STATE, PLACE OF WORK 1/
(In Thousands)

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED Industry	March 1988 (Prel.)	February 1988 (REV.)	March 1987 (REV.)	February 1987 (REV.)	Numerical Change: Feb. 1988 to March 1988	Numerical Change: March 1987 to March 1988
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE AND SALARY.	1874.7	1858.2	1792.2	1773.3	16.5	82.5
MANUFACTURING	324.2	321.9	306.1	304.2	2.3	18.1
Durable Goods	231.0	229.4	214.9	214.2	1.6	16.1
Lumber & Wood Products	39.6 _3/	39.3	38.1	38.3	0.3	1.5
Furniture & Fixtures	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.6	0.1	0.0
Stone, Clay & Glass	6.3	6.2	6.0	5.8	0.1	0.3
Primary Metals	11.9	11.9	10.8	11.1	0.0	1.1
Aluminum	8.2	8.1	7.0	7.3	0.1	1.2
Fabricated Metals	10.3	10.3	9.7	9.6	0.0	0.6
Machinery	30.6	30.4	28.5	28.3	0.2	2.1
Machinery (Exc. Elec.)	17.4	17.3	15.6 _3/	15.5 _3/	0.1	1.8
Electrical Equip	13.2	13.1	12.9	12.8	0.1	0.3
Transportation Equip	112.8	112.0	103.1	102.5	0.8	9.7
Aerospace	98.2	98.1	89.6	89.2	0.1	8.6
Other Transp. Equip	14.6	13.9	13.5 _3/	13.3 _3/	0.7	1.1
Instruments & Related	10.9	10.9	10.5	10.5	0.0	0.4
Misc. Manufacturing	4.9	4.8	4.5	4.5	0.1	0.4
Nondurable Goods	93.2	92.5	91.2	90.0	0.7	2.0
Food & Kindred Products	30.4	29.9	29.3	28.4 _3/	0.5	1.1
Canned & Preserved Foods.	9.8	9.7	9.5	8.8	0.1	0.3
Apparel & Allied Products	6.0	5.9	5.8	5.8	0.1	0.2
Paper & Allied Products	16.4	16.3	16.4	16.3	0.1	0.0
Printing & Publishing	20.8	20.8	19.7	19.6	0.0	1.1
Chemicals & Allied Products	10.9	11.0	11.6	11.6	-0.1	-0.7
Other Nondurable Goods	8.7	8.6	8.4	8.3	0.1	0.3
MINING & QUARRYING	3.3	3.1	2.8	2.7	0.2	0.5
CONSTRUCTION	86.9	83.4	80.1	77.5	3.5	6.8
TRANSP.,COMM. & UTIL	99.6	99.2	95.0	94.7 _3/	0.4	4.6
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	452.2	449.3	435.6	431.0	2.9	16.6
Wholesale Trade	110.3	109.4	106.9	105.5	0.9	3.4
Retail Trade	341.9 _3/	339.9	328.7 _3/	325.5 _3/	2.0	13.2
FIN. INS. & REAL ESTATE	107.1	106.4	106.0	105.3	0.7	1.1
SERVICES	436.9	431.9	407.5	401.8	5.0	29.4
Health Services	134.6	133.4	126.8	125.6	1.2	7.8
GOVERNMENT	364.5	363.0	359.1	356.1	1.5	5.4
Federal	69.0	68.9	69.3	68.1	0.1	-0.3
State & Local	295.5	294.1	289.8	288.0	1.4	5.7
Education	159.5	158.6	158.7	157.6	0.9	0.8
(WORKERS IN LABOR-MANAGEMENT DISPUTES	0.2	0.0	1.2	1.5	0.2	-1.0

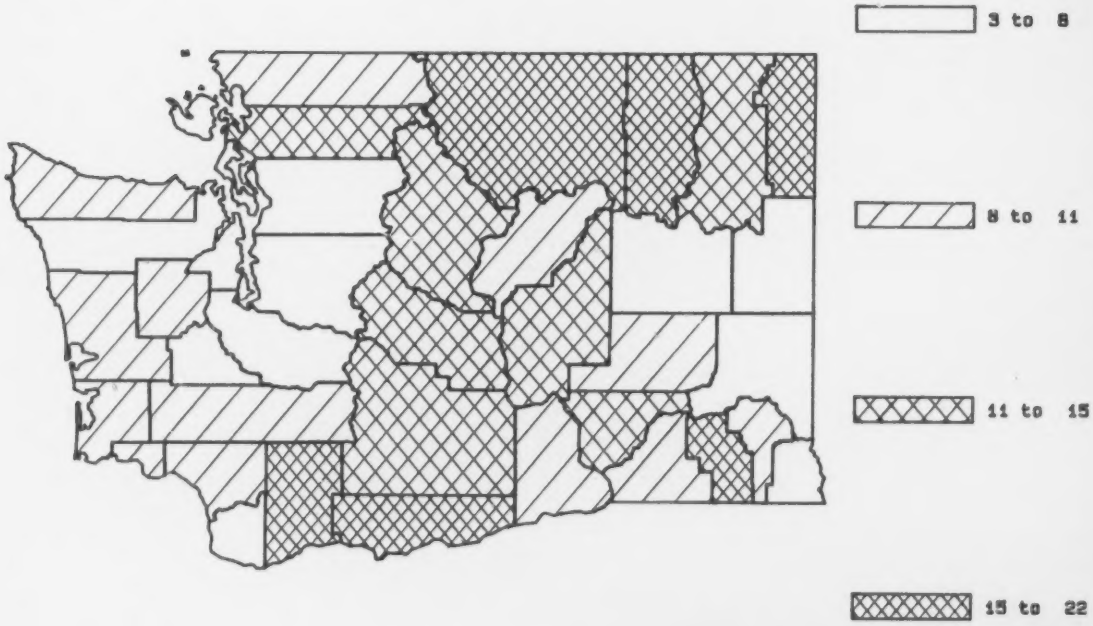
_1/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of armed forces, and private household employees. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

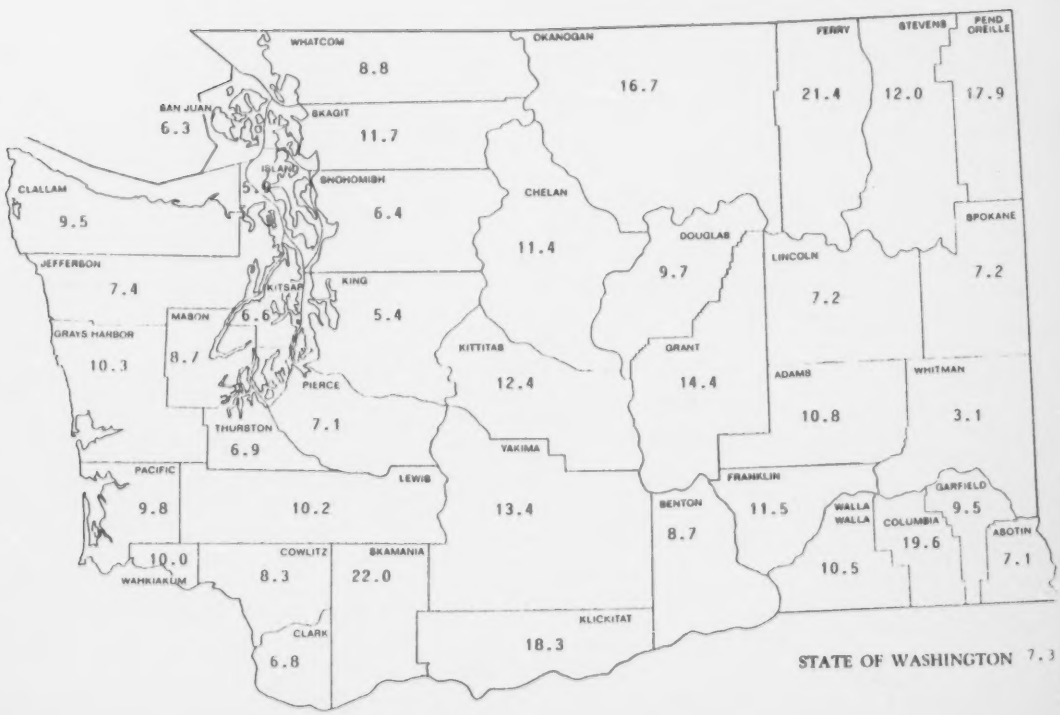
_2/ Includes textile mill products, rubber and miscellaneous plastic products, petroleum refining and related products, and leather products.

_3/ Workers excluded because of involvement in labor-management disputes.

MARCH UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

State of Washington 7.3





STATE OF WASHINGTON 7.3

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

RESIDENT LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT
IN WASHINGTON STATE AND LABOR MARKET AREAS

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

DATE 5/3/88
Benchmark: 1987

	MARCH 1988 PRELIMINARY 1/				FEBRUARY 1988 REVISED 1/				MARCH 1987 REVISED			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate
Washington State total	2,284,200	2,117,800	166,400	7.3	2,268,100	2,090,800	177,300	7.8	2,201,400	2,015,100	186,300	8.5
Bellingham MSA	59,300	54,100	5,200	8.8	58,700	53,100	5,600	9.5	56,300	51,300	5,000	8.9
Bremerton MSA	72,900	68,100	4,800	6.6	72,900	68,000	4,900	6.7	71,100	66,500	4,600	6.5
Olympia MSA	74,900	69,700	5,200	6.9	76,000	70,400	5,600	7.4	72,600	66,900	5,700	7.9
Seattle PMSA	1,028,900	971,300	57,600	5.6	1,020,100	961,200	58,900	5.8	977,500	914,000	63,500	6.5
King County 2/	816,000	772,100	43,900	5.4	808,600	764,000	44,600	5.5	775,200	726,500	48,700	6.3
Snohomish County 2/	212,900	199,300	13,600	6.4	211,600	197,200	14,400	6.8	202,400	187,500	14,900	7.4
Spokane MSA	167,600	155,500	12,100	7.2	166,900	153,800	13,100	7.8	163,900	149,800	14,100	8.6
Tacoma PMSA	245,200	227,800	17,400	7.1	242,800	224,500	18,300	7.5	234,600	213,600	21,000	9.0
Tri-Cities MSA	66,200	60,000	6,200	9.4	66,100	59,200	6,900	10.4	67,900	61,100	6,800	10.0
Benton County 2/	50,600	46,200	4,400	8.7	50,400	45,600	4,800	9.5	52,000	47,000	5,000	9.6
Franklin County 2/	15,600	13,800	1,800	11.5	15,800	13,700	2,100	13.3	15,900	14,100	1,800	11.3
Vancouver PMSA	112,400	104,800	7,600	6.8	111,700	103,200	8,500	7.6	107,200	97,800	9,400	8.8
Yakima MSA	87,000	75,300	11,700	13.4	85,200	71,900	13,300	15.6	84,800	72,900	11,900	14.0
Adams	6,380	5,690	690	10.8	6,390	5,410	980	15.3	6,370	5,550	820	12.9
Asotin	8,910	8,280	630	7.1	8,820	8,140	680	7.7	8,220	7,530	690	8.4
Clallam	22,280	20,170	2,110	9.5	22,310	19,970	2,340	10.5	22,070	19,900	2,170	9.8
Columbia	2,090	1,680	410	19.6	1,820	1,370	450	24.7	2,080	1,700	380	18.3
Cowlitz	35,070	32,160	2,910	8.3	35,020	31,860	3,160	9.0	34,310	30,460	3,850	11.2
Ferry	2,800	2,200	600	21.4	2,670	2,190	480	18.0	2,530	2,090	440	17.4
Garfield	1,050	950	100	9.5	1,030	940	90	8.7	1,110	990	120	10.8
Grant	23,010	19,700	3,310	14.4	22,630	19,350	3,280	14.5	23,010	19,870	3,140	13.6
Grays Harbor	25,160	22,560	2,600	10.3	25,250	22,160	3,090	12.2	26,070	23,040	3,030	11.6
Island	18,560	17,470	1,090	5.9	18,360	17,180	1,180	6.4	17,660	16,510	1,150	6.5
Jefferson	7,460	6,910	550	7.4	7,400	6,760	640	8.6	7,610	6,940	670	8.8
Kittitas	11,130	9,750	1,380	12.4	11,220	9,750	1,470	13.1	11,500	10,080	1,420	12.3
Klickitat	7,750	6,330	1,420	18.3	7,710	6,130	1,580	20.5	7,270	5,190	2,080	28.6
Lewis	24,350	21,870	2,480	10.2	24,380	21,600	2,780	11.4	23,600	20,750	2,850	12.1
Lincoln	3,900	3,620	280	7.2	3,910	3,570	340	8.7	4,170	3,800	370	8.9
Mason	12,340	11,270	1,070	8.7	12,440	11,120	1,320	10.6	12,110	10,900	1,210	10.0
Okanogan	14,930	12,430	2,500	16.7	14,740	12,280	2,460	16.7	14,490	12,010	2,480	17.1
Pacific	6,100	5,500	600	9.8	6,340	5,620	720	11.4	6,650	5,850	800	12.0
Pend Oreille	3,020	2,480	540	17.9	2,970	2,470	500	16.8	3,050	2,310	740	24.3
San Juan	4,930	4,620	310	6.3	4,710	4,350	360	7.6	4,630	4,250	380	8.2
Skagit	32,360	28,560	3,800	11.7	31,940	27,710	4,230	13.2	31,530	27,410	4,120	13.1
Skamania	2,230	1,740	490	22.0	2,290	1,580	710	31.0	2,550	2,020	530	20.8
Stevens	11,170	9,830	1,340	12.0	11,000	9,730	1,270	11.5	11,190	9,320	1,870	16.7
Wahkiakum	1,100	990	110	10.0	1,070	960	110	10.3	1,180	1,060	120	10.2
Walla Walla	23,390	20,940	2,450	10.5	23,300	20,510	2,790	12.0	23,470	20,510	2,960	12.6
Wenatchee Labor Area	39,710	35,410	4,300	10.8	39,500	34,850	4,650	11.8	38,890	33,620	5,270	13.6
Chelan County 2/	27,040	23,960	3,080	11.4	26,900	23,580	3,320	12.3	26,730	22,750	3,980	14.9
Douglas County 2/	12,680	11,450	1,230	9.7	12,600	11,270	1,330	10.6	12,160	10,870	1,290	10.6
Whitman	18,650	18,080	570	3.1	18,460	17,880	580	3.1	18,550	17,730	820	4.4

1/ Estimates provided here are for use as an economic time-series.

2/ Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology.
Note: Detail may not add due to rounding

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

WASHINGTON STATE LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES FOR FEDERAL PROGRAM PURPOSES

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

May 3, 1988
Benchmark: 1987

	MARCH 1988 PRELIMINARY 1/				FEBRUARY 1988 REVISED 1/			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate
Washington State total	2,298,200	2,131,000	167,200	7.3	2,277,800	2,099,700	178,100	7.8
Bellingham MSA	59,600	54,400	5,200	8.7	59,100	53,400	5,700	9.6
Bremerton MSA	73,300	68,500	4,800	6.5	73,200	68,300	4,900	6.7
Olympia MSA	75,400	70,200	5,200	6.9	76,300	70,700	5,600	7.3
Seattle PMSA	1,035,200	977,400	57,800	5.6	1,024,500	965,300	59,200	5.8
King County 2/	821,000	776,900	44,100	5.4	812,000	767,300	44,700	5.5
Snohomish County 2/	214,200	200,500	13,700	6.4	212,500	198,000	14,500	6.8
Spokane MSA	168,700	156,500	12,200	7.2	167,600	154,400	13,200	7.9
Tacoma MSA	246,700	229,200	17,500	7.1	243,700	225,400	18,300	7.5
Tri-Cities MSA	66,700	60,400	6,300	9.4	66,400	59,500	6,900	10.4
Benton County 2/	51,000	46,500	4,500	8.8	50,600	45,800	4,800	9.5
Franklin County 2/	15,700	13,900	1,800	11.5	15,800	13,700	2,100	13.3
Vancouver PMSA	113,100	105,500	7,600	6.7	112,100	103,600	8,500	7.6
Yakima MSA	87,600	75,800	11,800	13.5	85,600	72,300	13,300	15.5
Adams	6,420	5,730	690	10.7	6,430	5,440	990	15.4
Asotin	8,960	8,330	630	7.0	8,870	8,180	690	7.8
Clallam	22,410	20,290	2,120	9.5	22,400	20,050	2,350	10.5
Columbia	2,100	1,690	410	19.5	1,820	1,370	450	24.7
Cowlitz	35,280	32,360	2,920	8.3	35,160	31,990	3,170	9.0
Ferry	2,810	2,210	600	21.4	2,690	2,200	490	18.2
Garfield	1,060	960	100	9.4	1,040	950	90	8.7
Grant	23,150	19,830	3,320	14.3	22,730	19,430	3,300	14.5
Grays Harbor	25,310	22,700	2,610	10.3	25,360	22,260	3,100	12.2
Island	18,670	17,570	1,100	5.9	18,440	17,260	1,180	6.4
Jefferson	7,500	6,950	550	7.3	7,430	6,790	640	8.6
Kittitas	11,200	9,810	1,390	12.4	11,270	9,790	1,480	13.1
Klickitat	7,800	6,370	1,430	18.3	7,750	6,160	1,590	20.5
Lewis	24,510	22,010	2,500	10.2	24,500	21,700	2,800	11.4
Lincoln	3,930	3,650	280	7.1	3,930	3,590	340	8.7
Mason	12,420	11,340	1,080	8.7	12,490	11,160	1,330	10.6
Okanogan	15,020	12,510	2,510	16.7	14,800	12,330	2,470	16.7
Pacific	6,130	5,530	600	9.8	6,370	5,650	720	11.3
Pend Oreille	3,040	2,500	540	17.8	2,980	2,480	500	16.8
San Juan	4,960	4,650	310	6.3	4,740	4,370	370	7.8
Skagit	32,560	28,740	3,820	11.7	32,070	27,830	4,240	13.2
Skamania	2,240	1,750	490	21.9	2,290	1,580	710	31.0
Stevens	11,240	9,890	1,350	12.0	11,050	9,770	1,280	11.6
Wahkiakum	1,110	1,000	110	9.9	1,070	960	110	10.3
Walla Walla	23,530	21,070	2,460	10.5	23,390	20,590	2,800	12.0
Wenatchee Labor Area	39,950	35,630	4,320	10.8	39,670	35,000	4,670	11.8
Chelan County 2/	27,200	24,110	3,090	11.4	27,020	23,680	3,340	12.4
Douglas County 2/	12,750	11,520	1,230	9.6	12,660	11,320	1,340	10.6
Whitman	18,760	18,190	570	3.0	18,540	17,950	590	3.2

1/ Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data. Data are not comparable with estimates made in previous years.
2/ Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology.
Note: Detail may not add due to rounding.

ESTIMATED AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN MANUFACTURING AND OF NONSUPERVISORY WORKERS IN NONMANUFACTURING ACTIVITIES, STATE OF WASHINGTON

	Prelim Mar Production Workers/ Nonsupervisory Workers	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
		Mar-88	Feb-88	Mar-87	Mar-88	Feb-88	Mar-87	Mar-88	Feb-88	Mar-87
TOTAL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES*	190,795	$472.78	$473.22	$482.40	40.1	39.8	40.1	$11.79	$11.89	$12.03
SELECTED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES										
Lumber and Wood Products	34,461	$410.03	$423.93	$426.60	38.5	39.0	39.5	$10.65	$10.87	$10.80
Primary Metal Industries	9,182	$556.86	$543.22	$547.62	44.8	44.2	43.6	$12.43	$12.29	$12.56
Fabricated Metal Products	7,772	$433.13	$423.74	$444.14	38.5	37.4	39.2	$11.25	$11.33	$11.33
Machinery	17,278	$370.66	$367.29	$384.52	39.6	38.5	39.6	$9.36	$9.54	$9.71
Food and Kindred Products	22,039	$360.61	$353.20	$354.69	37.1	36.3	35.9	$9.72	$9.73	$9.88
Chemical and Allied Products	4,378	$588.24	$597.96	$606.41	43.0	40.9	42.2	$13.68	$14.62	$14.37
Transportation Equipment	48,271	$590.21	$595.55	$620.26	42.8	43.0	42.6	$13.79	$13.85	$14.56
SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES										
Construction	61,181	$588.06	$572.44	$596.38	36.8	35.8	36.7	$15.98	$15.99	$16.25
Wholesale and Retail Trade (does not include eating and drinking establishments)	247,606	$319.75	$317.18	$315.07	33.1	32.8	33.2	$9.66	$9.67	$9.49

* Average hourly earnings for all manufacturing production workers reported in this table do not exactly reflect the official US Bu of Labor Statistics definition of "wages." While these data still constitute a valid economic indicator series, they should not be used at this time for the negotiation of contracts whose monetary provisions may depend upon official US Bureau of Labor Statistics hourly earning data.

** Affected by labor-management disputes.

Revised 1986 and 1987 monthly and average annual data are available on request.

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